Via Fax Transmission: 1-571-273-8300

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were originally presented in the present application, from which claims 1, 10 and 13-16 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New Claims 22 - 39 have been added. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-21 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Shimomura in view of Mayo. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for reasons set forth hereafter.

Claims 1 and 16 have been replaced with new claims 22 and 23 that generally concern a method and system for providing video content to portable video devices used by a spectator while at a local event. The method and system comprise, among other things, providing a local broadcast system to service an area encompassing the local event, receiving at the local broadcast system at least one of a plurality of remote video signals, conveying to the local broadcast system a local video signal and broadcasting from the local broadcast system the local and remote video signals. The local and remote video signals are broadcast in a manner that allows users of the portable video devices to select between the local and remote video signals for viewing on the portable viewing devices. The prior art fails to teach or suggest any such method and system.

Shimomura describes a broadband data broadcasting service that broadcasts news and advertisements to a large number of receiver systems, such as personal computers, cable TV set-top boxes and the like. Shimomura does not describe the provision of a local broadcast system to service an area encompassing a local event, nor does Shimomura describe receiving at any such local broadcast, or broadcasting from a local broadcasting system the claimed local and remote video signals. In Shimomura's system, text, news, advertisements and the like are transmitted as multi-media content. Shimomura does not describe any embodiment in which a local video signal would be obtained comprising local event video content associated with an event that a user is attending and watching, then transmitting such local event video content to a local broadcast system that then rebroadcasts such local event video content at the local event in order that individuals attending the event may watch the local video content on portable viewing devices. Nor does Shimomura's multi-media content encompass the claimed remote video content which is obtained from other remote events and passed through the local broadcast system to portable viewing devices held by users while watching a local event live.

Mayo fails to make up for the deficiencies of Shimomura. Mayo describes a remote controlled message broadcasting system that is primarily concerned with conveying text messages. The message broadcast system is configured to convey information such as audio messages that are provided from a loud speaker over a public address system in a tourist attraction or other site. Alternatively, the message may be a digital message for receipt in a vehicle that is equipped with a display to display a text message (column 4, lines 44-52). Alternatively, the message may represent an audible alarm or a text message presented on a billboard (column 4, lines 52-61). Mayo fails to teach or suggest the provision of a local broadcast system to receive at the local broadcast system both local and remote video content associated with the local event and remote events, then rebroadcast the local and remote video content in the area surrounding the event to permit users of portable of viewing devices to selectively display the local and remote video content.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the combined teachings of Mayo and Shimomura fail to teach or suggest the claimed invention.

New claims 22-39 have been added to define additional patentably distinct limitations.

Finally, for the purpose of full disclosure, an Office Action is attached from a copending, commonly assigned application (SN 10/453,385).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims define allowable subject matter. Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: June 15, 2007

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 61 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The term "**substantially**" is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "substantially" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 50-57, 59, 60, and 61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Verna (U.S. 6,681,398 B1).

Regarding claim 50, Verna discloses a receiver (220 – figure 1) for receiving event content, comprising: a display (210 – figure 1) for displaying video content defined by a plurality

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of video signals transmitted at an event and received by said receiver at said event (see col. 16, lines 59-63; col. 14, lines 8-11); and a user interface (within 216 – figure 1) for selecting at least one of said video signals to display video content on said display, said video content defined by said selected video signal (see col. 17, lines 24-33; col. 18, lines 57-63; col. 19, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 51, Verna further discloses an audio output device (audio speaker) for producing audio content defined by a plurality of audio signals transmitted at said event and received by said receiver, and wherein said user interface for selecting at least one of said audio signals to produce audio content from said audio output device defined by said selected audio signal (see col. 17, lines12-14 and 24-33; col. 19, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 52, Verna further discloses that said user interface is configured for selecting a combination of at least one video signal and at least one audio signal (see col. 14, lines 43-53; col. 16, lines 20-25).

Regarding claim 53, Verna further discloses that said user interface comprises a signal demodulator for demodulating a combined signal including said plurality of video and audio signals, such that said combined signal is separated into a plurality of combination signals based upon frequency (see col. 14, lines 43-53).

Regarding claim 54, Verna discloses a signal selector component (within 216) controlled by said user interface for selecting one of said combination signals based upon a user input (see col. 17, lines 24-33; col. 18, lines 57-64).

Regarding claim 55, Verna further discloses that said video signals are selectable to display different views of said event on said display (video or different views from different camera angles – see col. 4, lines 40-45; col. 17, lines 24-33).

Regarding claim 56, Verna discloses a method of providing an event based content delivery system, the method comprising: transmitting a plurality of signals (110 – figure 1) for reception at an event, said plurality of signals including event content (see col. 3, lines 60-61; col. 4, lines 24-26 and 40-46; col. 5, lines 40-47); receiving said plurality of signals with a portable receiver (220 – figure 1) at said event (it is noted that system 140 and receiver 220 are at the same location to operate near a sporting event or located in an area of stadium or a facility hosting a sporting event - col. 3, lines 60-61; col. 4, lines 24-26 and 40-46; col. 5, lines 40-47; col. 14, lines 1-16); receiving a user input via said portable receiver, said user input selecting one of said plurality of received signals; and outputting event content defined by said selected signal (see col. 17, lines 24-33; col. 19, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 57, Verna discloses that said event content comprises video and audio content (see col. 16, lines 16-25).

Regarding claim 59, Verna further discloses that outputting step comprises displaying video content and producing audio content defined by said selected signal (see col. 17, lines 15-17 and 25-33).

Regarding claim 60, Verna discloses that said selected signal defines a combination of video and audio content (see col. 17, lines 25-33).

Regarding claim 61, Verna discloses that said event content is output substantially simultaneously with an occurrence of said event (viewing events in nearly real time – see abstract).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Verna (U.S. 6,681,398 B1) in view of Koehler et al. (US 20010042105 A1).

Regarding claim 58, Verna teaches that video content comprises at least one of different camera views provided by cameras at the event (sporting event) and live event television broadcast video (e.g., news event) (see col. 4, lines 40-46; col. 5, lines 40-56). Verna does not explicitly teach providing audio content comprising audio from at least one of participants and commentators at the event. However, Koehler discloses a system for listening to teams in a race event. Particularly, the system provides audio signals from a plurality of audio sources at the race event to allow user to selectively listen to communications made by the team members of each team during the face (see 0014, 0016, 0018, 0024). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Verna by providing audio content from participants during sporting event as taught by Koehler in order to allow user to selectively listen to team or participant communications during the event.

7. Claims 23-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vancelette (US 5,894,320) in view of Verna (U.S. 6,681,398 B1).

Regarding claims 23, Vancelette teaches a content delivery network, comprising: a least one video camera (12, 14, 16 – figure 1) located at a live event (sporting event) (see col. 6, lines 4-8 and figure 1); an interface (22, 26 – figure 1) receiving at least two video signals, wherein at least one of said video signals is from at least one video camera, said interface combining said at least two video signals to form a combined signal (see col. 6, lines 24-25; col. 8, lines 34-35); and a transmitter (32, 40 – figure 1) transmitting said combined signal (see col. 6, line 60 to col. 7, line 3).

It is noted that transmitting system 20 in Vancelette's system is located near the field 10 in an equipment vehicle for providing the processed signals captured from a sporting event (see col. 6, lines 15-17). Vancelette does not explicitly teach transmitting the processed signal locally for reception at live event. However, Verna teaches transmitting signal 110 from broadcast van 120 to a portable receiver via selection system 140 at sporting event (see col. 5, lines 40-47; col. 3, lines 60-61; col. 4, lines 38-46; and figure 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Vancelette by transmitting the processed signal locally for reception at sporting event as taught by Verna in order to allow users attending the event not only see the game in real time but also instant replay on the portable receiver.

Regarding claim 24, Vancelette further discloses that the live event is a sporting event of a football game (see col. 5, lines 20-22).

Regarding claims 25 and 28, Vancelette's system allow viewer to select among a choice of available camera angles and audio feeds when viewing sporting event (see col. 5, lines 20-34). Vancelette does not explicitly disclose a camera in a vehicle participating in an automobile race, and a microphone located in a vehicle participating the event. Official Notice is taken that using a camera and a microphone located in a car in a car race for capturing video and audio content from that car is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined system of Vancelette and Verna by including a camera and a microphone located in a car in a car race for capturing video and audio content from that car in order to provide user car views and voices of a particular participant during the car race.

Regarding claim 26, Vancelette discloses that signals include a video signal from said camera and a television transmission signal (see col. 6, lines 24-40).

Regarding claim 27, Vancelette discloses that said interface combines said at least two video signals with at least two audio signals (see col. 6, lines 7-8).

Regarding claim 29, Vancelette as modified by Verna further discloses a coaxial cable (130) connected to broadcast van 120 for conveying the signal (see Verna: figure 1).

Regarding claim 30, Vancelette discloses transmitting the signal over a wireless RF link (see col. 7, lines 1-3).

Regarding claims 31, 32, 33, 36, and 39-42, Vancelette discloses an event based content delivery system (see figure 1), comprising an interface (22, 26 – figure 1) receiving a plurality of video signals and a plurality of audio signals from said event, wherein the plurality of video signals from different video cameras define different views of the event, at least one combination of the received plurality of video signals and the received plurality of audio signals via the interface (by mux 26) to form the combined signal for transmission, the combination comprising at least two video signal (see col. 6, lines 24-25; col. 8, lines 34-35); the interface transmitting said combined signals (via a transmitter 32, 40 and/or communication network 42 – figure 1) (see col. 6, line 60 to col. 7, line 3).

It is noted that transmitting system 20 in Vancelette's system is located near the field 10 in an equipment vehicle for providing the processed signals captured from a sporting event (see col. 6, lines 15-17). Vancelette does not explicitly teach transmitting the processed signal locally for reception at the event, and a portable receiver for receiving the signals transmitted from the interface. However, Verna teaches transmitting signal 110 from broadcast van 120 to a portable receiver via selection system 140 at sporting event (see col. 5, lines 40-47; col. 3, lines 60-61; col. 4, lines 38-46; and figure 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Vancelette by transmitting the processed signal locally for reception at sporting event as taught by Verna in order to allow users attending the event not only see the game in real time but also replay the game on the portable receiver.

Regarding claims 34 and 35, Vancelette as modified by Verna further discloses the portable receiver comprises a display for displaying video images defined by the plurality of video signals and a speaker for producing audio defined by the plurality of audio signals (see col. 16, lines 59-63; col. 17, lines 12-15 and 24-30).

Regarding claims 37 and 38, Vancelette's system allow viewer to select among a choice of available camera angles and audio feeds when viewing sporting event (see col. 5, lines 20-34). Vancelette does not explicitly disclose a camera in a vehicle participating in an automobile race, and a microphone located in a vehicle participating the event. Official Notice is taken that using a camera and a microphone located in a car in a car race for capturing video and audio content from that car is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined system of Vancelette and Verna by including a camera and a microphone located in a car in a car race for capturing video and audio content from that car in order to provide user car views and voices of a particular participant during the car race.

Regarding claims 43-46, Vancelette discloses a system providing video and audio for an event (sporting event) (see figure 1), comprising: at least one video recording device (12, 14, 16 – figure 1) at an event; at least one audio recording device (within 12, 14, 16 – figure 1) at said event; an interface (22, 26 – figure 1) receiving a plurality of video signals and a plurality of audio signals from said event, wherein the plurality of video signals are from at least one video recording device define different views of the event, at least one combination of the received plurality of video signals and the received plurality of audio signals via the interface (by mux 26) to form the combined signal for transmission at said event (see col. 6, lines 24-25; col. 8, lines 34-35; see col. 6, line 60 to col. 7, line 3).

It is noted that transmitting system 20 in Vancelette's system is located near the field 10 in an equipment vehicle for providing the processed signals captured from a sporting event to delivery signals to users so that users may select among a choice of available camera angles and audio feeds when viewing a game of the sporting event (see col. 6, lines 15-17; col. 5, lines 21-47). Vancelette does not explicitly teach a portable receiver for receiving the signals and a wireless transmitter transmitting wirelessly the signals to the portable receiver. However, Verna teaches transmitting signals from broadcast van 120 to selection system 140, then the selection system 140 wirelessly transmit the signals to a portable receiver 220 via transmitter 134. The portable receiver may be placed in a holster belt attachment; alternatively, it may be permanently fixed or temporarily fixed. (See col. 5, lines 40-47; col. 3, lines 60-61; col. 4, lines 38-46; col. 11, lines 33-36 and 55-58; col. 13, lines 55-60 and figure 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Vancelette by including a portable receiver for receiving the signals and a wireless transmitter transmitting wirelessly the signals to the portable receiver as taught by Verna in order to eliminate wires or lines around the users for viewing the audiovisual content on the portable receiver.

Regarding claim 47, Vancelette as modified by Verna further discloses that the portable receiver comprises a user interface to select any one of the received video and audio signals and audio signal based upon a user input (see Verna: col. 19, lines 18-27).

Regarding claims 48-49, Vancelette discloses signal conditioner comprising signal demodulator configured to condition at least one of the received signals (see col. 6, lines 17-23).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ngoc K. Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-7306. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Miller can be reached on 571-272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NGOC K. VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 2623

March 5, 2007